

December 2018

Volume 21, Issue 11

2018-2019 Schedule of Meetings:

Dec. 5th.; and **2019**— Mar. 6th, Apr. 3rd, May 1, June 5th, July 3rd, Aug. 7th, Sept. 4th, Oct. 2nd, Nov. 6th, and Dec. 4th. No meetings January and February.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m., meeting starts 7 p.m., at the Rockwood Public Library (inside Eramosa Community Centre) at 85 Christie Street (near corner Christie Street and Main Street North Wellington Road 27, Rockwood, On. NoB 2K0.

2019 Annual Membership Fee:

Regular \$10
Couple \$12
Junior (14 to age 18) \$5
Under 14 Free

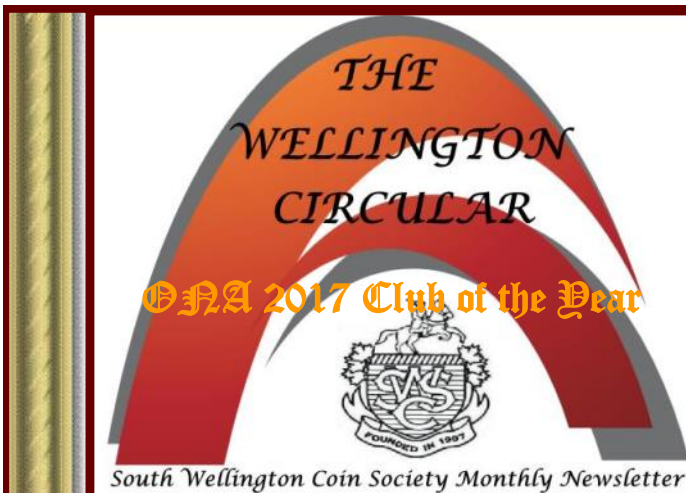
Membership / Treasurer Contact:

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NEXT MEETING DATE:
WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 5TH, 2018
DOORS OPEN 6 P.M.
MEETING STARTS
****7 P.M.****

THEME:
CASINO CHIPS

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Our next meeting is **Wednesday, December 5th, 2018 AT **7 P.M.**** (DOORS OPEN 6 P.M.)! **Robb McPherson**, will give a presentation about the **Casino Chips**.

2018 was Robb's 30th service anniversary with Canadian General Tower. Robb is a graduate of Mohawk College's Law & Security Administration program. He and his lovely wife Lisa reside in Brantford. Robb is currently part of a team organizing a new coin club in Hamilton, the same city he attended college. Robb has been involved in many numismatic clubs and organizations at all levels. With the ONA he's currently the Treasurer and Convention General Chairman, and immediate Past-President. He is also a Regional Director of the RCNA. Robb is often seen speaking at club meetings and symposiums. For example, at the 2016 RCNA convention, he spoke on Casino Chips & Tokens. Robb received the ONA's highest honour in 2018, the Award of Merit, and in 2010, he became a Fellow of the ONA.

Robb is the editor of the Casino Chip & Token News Quarterly Magazine, the official publication of the Casino Collectibles Association, and has been involved in building the online catalogue which includes U.S., Canadian, and world casino chips and tokens (chipguide.com). Go to this link to learn about the casino (active and inactive) in Ontario http://www.themogh.org/cg_state2.php. Scotsman Robb married Lisa Spinks on June 14, 2014 and left to start their honeymoon in Las Vega June 17th continuing off to other parts of the U.S. Lisa and Robb frequently visit the U.S. and ensure to include casinos, mints, and numismatic museums in their trips.



Please pay your 2019 dues at our December meeting, we will be having our draw for the Canadian Coin News subscription. Once again, the Food Bank rep will be coming to our December meeting. We have another GOLD coin in play in our Daytona draw. You must buy a ticket for a chance to win!

Bring along a friend or two to our next SWCS meeting, enjoy free refreshments and smiles, share the FUN and LAUGHTER with the ONA Club of the Year!



South Wellington
Coin Society **founded**
in 1997



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Send pictures in jpg,
files in doc, xls, pdf,
wpd, or email body.



Articles of the upcoming
newsletters are due to the Editor
by no later than the 15th of the
current month.

Advertising space will be
accommodated where space is
available.

SWCS:
Was founded in March 1997.
This medal was issued 2015.



**SWCS is recipient of
BOTH RCNA Club of
Year and Newsletter of
Year Awards.**



South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

SWCS EXECUTIVE

Term of Office: **July 1, 2018—June 30, 2021 (3 yrs)**

Board of Directors (elected)

(sets officers' guidelines, but not involved in day-to-day operations EXCEPT responsible for ALL education programs and looks after ALL contracts for venues and insurance)

Chairman / Director: **Scott Douglas**

Directors: **Mel Brown, Peter Becker, Ernie Blair, Garry George, John Semedo, Lowell Wierstra** (ljwierstra@rogers.com, **519-824-6534**)

Director Emeritus: **Robert Zmija** (Lifetime Member #1)

Director of Youth Services: **Peter Horne deus** (YN)

Officers (elected)

(run the day-to-day operations)

President: **Scott Douglas**, sdouglas333@gmail.com, **519-853-3812**
(also is club archivist, historian, and looks after medals)

Past-President: **John Semedo**, johnsemedo99@gmail.com, **519-821-6379**

Vice-President: **Mike Hollingshead**, cholling@uoguelph.ca, **519-823-2646**

Treasurer: **Scott Douglas**

(includes all revenues generated from membership dues, meetings, and shows; and looks after advertising)

Secretary: **Judy Blackman**, jblackman@rogers.com

(includes flyers, other club notices, newsletters since Oct 5 2011, public website liaison, private website webmaster, executive agendas and minutes) Newsletter / Flyer Distribution: **Linda Blair**

Other Non-Elected IMPORTANT Club Roles

ALL Multi-Media Needs: **John Semedo**

ALL Draws and Membership Meeting Notes: **John Semedo** and **Mike Hollingshead**

Show Bourse: **Mike Hollingshead** and **Lowell Wierstra**
Social Media Show Advertising: **Andrew Fedora**

Auction Chairman: **Lowell Wierstra**

Auctioneers: **Mike Hollingshead** and **Scott Douglas**
Auction Runners: available executive and other members.

“Giving Back to Community” Liaison:
Heather Hoddinott

Hospitality, Mall Days and Kids' Programs & Mentors:
Mel Brown and **Charles Turton**

Meeting Room Set-up and Clean-up:
All members present



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Club Report & News reported by Mike Hollingshead, and photos by John Semedo

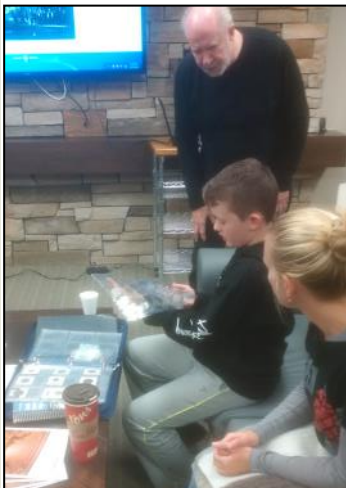
The SWCS meeting held on **November 7th, 2018** with **24** regular members and **2** young numismatists present plus guests.

Members' Attendance Draw: The SWCS Membership Draw was to be a **\$5** cash award for November. Long time member **Ed Hagen's** name was picked but Ed was AWOL so the draw for the December meeting will be for **\$10**. Don't forget that in December one lucky SWCS member who is paid-up for 2019 will receive a subscription to Canada's foremost numismatic newspaper: Canadian Coin News. Make sure Scott has **your membership money to be eligible for two draws before the end of 2018!**

The **King Arthur's Treasure:** KAT draw named after a SWCS past president **Arthur Stephenson**. To join in the fun just bring 5 unwanted or surplus numismatic items with you and drop them in the KAT box. If you don't have five items, drop a loonie in. One lucky participant will receive the entire contents of the box.



The surprised lucky winner of **84** item equivalents in November was recent member and a Young Numismatist, **Ethan!** Congratulations to Ethan who brought out part of his collection to share with members. That is the spirit of the numismatic fraternity: sharing the knowledge.



Daytona Draw: Brought north to us by **Scott Douglas**, the Daytona Draw is the most complicated of the draws but easy to win. Tickets for the draw are \$2 each and you can buy as many as you like. The owner of the ticket drawn gets to choose one of 4-5 envelopes offered, each containing a different prize valued between \$40 and \$100 retail. There is currently a Royal Canadian Mint Gold Coin included among the envelopes! The one envelope chosen is then put up for auction to anyone who would like to bid. The owner of the ticket picked then gets to decide whether to accept the money bid for the envelope (the bidder then gets the envelope's contents) or to refuse the bid and retain the envelope. To be a sure winner you need to buy a ticket, but you could still participate by being a bidder but you may not be a successful winner.

November's winning ticket was owned by **Andrew Strachan** who chose envelope "B" of the A-E offered. Bidding went quickly up to nearly \$30 with the knowledge that a gold coin was among the offerings. **Mel Brown** was the final bidder but Andrew had a feeling that his envelope choice was a good one so he refused the cash in favour of the envelope. **Andrew's** instincts proved dead on as he was the winner of the RCM Gold Coin!!! SWCS will have another gold coin in the December Daytona Draw so be sure to attend the meeting and get tickets on the gold!



November's Educational Program: A "hook", what makes a story great is when there is both a personal connection and a "character" involved. A local Guelph family historian and retired University of Guelph Animal Nutrition researcher **Dave Mowat** was our guest for November. Dave had a wonderful presentation on the **Klondike Gold Rush** and had both of those "hooks" covered as the character was his great-uncle Walter who despite attaining a Pharmacy degree at the top of his class from Queen's University, traveled north-west from the family home in Ottawa for the Gold Rush of 1896 in the Yukon's Klondike region. The story was supplemented with references to British-Canadian poet and actor **Robert William Service** (epic poems *The Spell of Yukon*, *The Trail of 1898*, etc.), **Pierre Berton** (*The Klondike Fever: The Life And Death Of The Last Great Gold Rush*) and **Jennifer Duncan** (*Frontier Spirit: The Brave Women Of The Klondike*).



Dave described the hardships endured by the ill-prepared adventurers, their pitfalls and successes and how life turned

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Club Report & News reported by Mike Hollingshead, and photos by John Semedo

out successful for the descendants of his great-uncle Walter despite the sometimes dark life that initiated it. Dave also had some treasured photos of his great-uncle and family and one photo showing the pharmacy set up in Dawson by Walter. Learn more inside this issue.



The talk was warmly received by the audience who had lots of questions and interest in the valuable photos displayed. Dave expressed he appreciated the interest and enthusiasm of the SWCS members, and that he also enjoyed the issues received of the SWCS newsletter.

Thank you very much Dave for sharing this personal and fascinating account of part of Canada's gold mining and national development history. We look forward to your next presentation in November 2019.

Coming to SWCS in Rockwood!: Your educational presentations scheduled are:

December, 2018—**Casino World:** Robb McPherson



**Babe Ruth—Limited Legends of Baseball Series,
Casino Queen, East St. Louis, Illinois**

Also please remember the Erin-Rockwood Food Bank representative is coming to this meeting to pick up our donations. **Heather Hoddinott** send out a message to members in November listing the items the Food Bank is in need of. Just days after this meeting, our President **Scott Douglas** will be having the long-awaited hip replacement surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery so he can enjoy the holidays with his family.

Remember we take January and February off, so our next meeting will be March 2019. Please pay your 2019 dues at our December meeting if you are not already paid up.

March, 2019 – **Coin Discoveries:**

We will show a short video (around 10 min.) of the top 10 recent coin discoveries in the world. After which, we would like to hear your stories about your own coin discoveries or discoveries of folks you know or read about. Discoveries could be by metal-detecting, or simply stumbling across something while appraising an estate or at a flea market or show. Scott one time made an interesting discovery at a market, and Mel certainly has had fun at digs.

April—**Wonderful Banknotes:**

We will show a short video (around 6 min.) of the Wonderful Banknotes of the world (includes Canadian). After which, we would like to see banknotes from your own collections that you feel are wonderful, and hear your thoughts about them.

(Note: Mike will be in Cuba and miss the Mar-Apr meetings)

May—**Topic to be advised:** Michael Dailous

June—**Topic to be advised:** Ron Cheek

July-October: LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER PRESENTERS

November– **War Memoir:** Dave Mowat (once again there will be a connection to his family)

December—**Christmas (or New Year Theme):** Scott Douglas
PLUS Food Bank presentation

Thank you for your Volunteerism: Thank you to Linda Blair for the yummy treats (Rice Krispy squares and cookies) and refreshments! Your efforts are always appreciated! Also thank you to **John Semedo** and **Mike Hollingshead** for handling ticket sales, and John for looking after multi-media set-up and photography.

Auction: Mike Hollingshead was our Auctioneer and **Peter Becker** and **Sean Sinclair** were our runners. Thank you to our Auction Coordinator / SWCS Director **Lowell Wierstra** for putting together the auction lots.

Lowell welcomes your consignments, and remember we keep our consignment fees very low, if not the lowest in Ontario. The SWCS commission charged to consignors: Sold for under \$20, auction fee is 25 cents and items sold for over \$20 fee is \$1. Pretty simple. No buyers premium, no sales tax.

We are now accepting consignments for our April-June 2019 auctions. Kindly submit your completed consignment form with the items you are consigning.

Klondike Gold Rush Presentation

Our November 2018 Membership Meeting Guest Speaker was **David Mowat**, a historian and retired professor from the University of Guelph, who spoke on the Ogilvie and Woodburn families' involvement in the Klondike Gold Rush and Yukon commerce community. David grew up in Ottawa although presently lives in the Guelph area. The majority of information and photos are from David, and otherwise is internet resources.

In August 2009, David and his wife **Helen** took a cruise to Alaska for their 48th Wedding Anniversary. Yes folks, they are married 57 years this year looking forward to celebrating their 60th in 2021, the same year the ONA celebrates its Diamond Jubilee. This Alaskan trip resulted in buying Pierre Berton's "*Klondike Fever*" and triggered an adventure into the life of Dave's grand-uncle **Walter Mayne W. Woodburn** who was Yukon's first Mayor during the Klondike Gold Rush era.

The Woodburn family was an original settler from Ireland in Gloucester Township in the 1840s. Walter graduated from Queens University in 1894 with the Gold Medal. He then apprenticed and graduated from the Ontario College of Pharmacy. Walter began operating a pharmacy on Bank Street in Ottawa before rushing to the Klondike in the spring of 1897. Since he was early arriving in the Klondike, Walter was very confident of obtaining riches and fully-intended to return home the following summer. However, Walter stayed eleven years in the Klondike, came out broke and a different man, and never saw his family in Ottawa again.

Walter went to Dawson from Seattle via the over 4,000-mile water (or rich-man's) route and was sent by the Klondike Mining and Exploring Co. The bulk of the newcomers made it from Skagway over steep mountains and down the Yukon River in a fleet of over 14,000 make-shift wooden boats or rafts for 500 miles to Dawson. This was an extremely demanding and hazardous route, especially in wintertime, bringing a ton of food and supplies required by the North West Mounted Police to avoid winter famine. East of Dawson in the heart of the Klondike gold fields was Grand Forks, the second largest settlement in 1901.

Walter lived in Grand Forks. Beginning in 1900, he owned and operated W. M. Woodburn's Drugstore. He was elected Mayor of Grand Forks on December 2, 1901. Moreover, he was Manager of the Opera House Theatre (1899), as well as, Postmaster of Grand Forks. He also joined the Masonic Lodge in Dawson City. William Ogilvie, Commissioner of the Yukon / Canadian Government Surveyor, appointed Walter as his Lieutenant, as he became ill and needed somebody to assume his duties in the interim. In 1901 Walter submitted a gold claim application. In 1903, he was the Returning Officer for the forthcoming Klondike municipal elections. Walter was well-respected, his judgement was valued, he was trusted, civic-minded, versatile, entrepreneurial, dynamic and popular, and initially quite prosperous.

Walter married Bertha Bense on February 18, 1903; the exact same day that his older brother was married in Ottawa. Bertha was born in Seattle in 1884, so was eleven years younger than Walter. Walter Woodburn Jr. was the first baby born in Grand Forks, Yukon, on June 22, 1903. His parents decided that the environment was not ideal for a young child and so he was sent with his nanny to be raised in Seattle for this first five years, and then returned to the Yukon in 1908 with his parents and grandparents. In the Klondike, Walter Woodburn Sr. was a "big toad in a little pond" and had found it hard adjusting to being a "little toad in a big pond" in Seattle. He bounced from job-to-job, was largely an absentee father and eventually left for California and was seldom heard from again. This was confirmed in a taped interview of Walter Woodburn Jr. It was a tragic plight for someone who showed initially such high promise and obvious talents. And a major disappointment and shame to his staunch family from Ottawa.

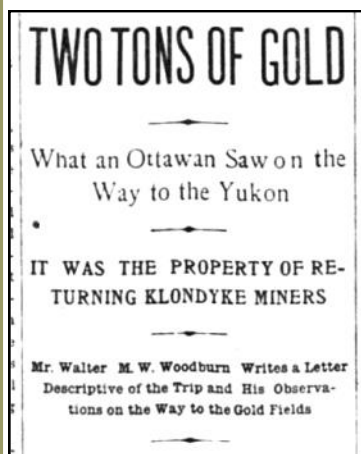
How much did his siblings reach out to Walter when they realized he was in difficulty? His two sisters, Janet and Celia, both went to finishing school in Ottawa; then married lawyers and eventually lived in the United States. However, they maintained close contact over the years with their elder brother Henry and his family on the homestead in Gloucester. Henry was six years older than Walter and was a champion in his youth at both tug-of-war and steeplechase, and an expert horseman. He was worldly, progressive and community-minded. Moreover, he had a good sense of humour, loved children and was certainly a gentleman. Mother described her father as "perfect". Walter Woodburn Sr.'s father, James Woodburn, lived for nine years after he left for the Yukon. However, his mother died in 1895, two years before he left.

Walter Woodburn Jr.'s German-immigrant grandfather played a major role in his early life; instilling the need for hard work in order to achieve. Walter had a lot of contact with him and admiration. To Walter's great credit his achievements, contributions and volunteerism were extensive and very admirable. In 1937, he travelled east to pick up a new car in Detroit; then motored on to Ottawa to meet for the first time his Ottawa relatives and visit the roots of his father.

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From then on there was close, warm and continual family contact with cousin Walter. Walter Woodburn Jr. and his wife Wilda celebrated his 85th birthday on June 22, 1988, in Dawson, Yukon. Walter returned to the Klondike to show Wilda and to see for himself his birthplace. In addition, he donated a plaque in memory of his father.

Walter Mayne W. Woodburn Sr. lost the stability of both parents at an early age, and unable to replicate his initial success in the Klondike gold fields.



The Ottawa Journal (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) 28 Jul 1897, Wed. The Evening Journal —Page 1 (center column):

Two tons of glittering Klondyke [editor's note: today we spell it "Klondike"] gold is what an Ottawa boy on his way to the gold fields claims to have seen.

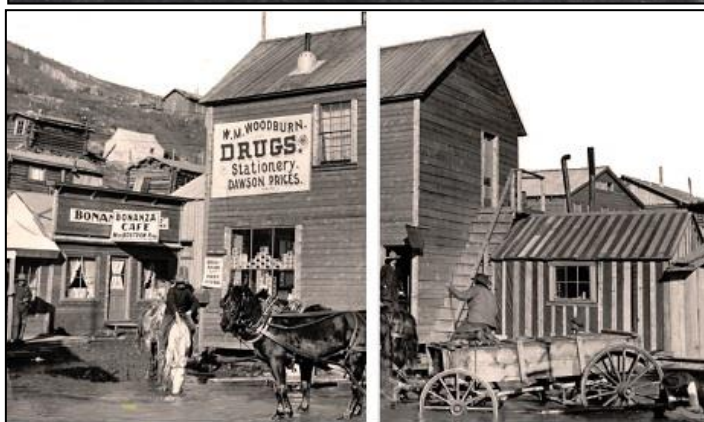
Mr. Walter M. W. Woodburn is on his way down the Yukon river, and writes that the purser of the Alaska Company's steamer Alice showed him two tons of the glittering metal in his cargo. Not a man on the boat, he says had less than \$8,000. Mr. Woodburn who was recently in the drug business here, and who was sent out by the "Throw Diuck Mining and Exploring Co., Ltd." wrote to Mr. J. P. Dunne, the secretary of the company. His letter was written from St. Michaels on the Yukon and is dated July 3rd. Mr. Woodburn writes: "I had intended writing you a second time from Seattle but I did not have time. You have no idea of the craze there was on the Pacific coast at the time I was there. And I think the people were justified in going crazy as everything tends to evince conclusive proof that the Canadian Yukon Territory around Klondyke Bonanza and Eldorado Creeks are the most extensive gold fields in the world — ten times as wealthy as California's ever was and I feel as confident of making big money as anyone ever felt. I have met so many coming down — men I knew — men who could have no possible excuse for lying who say, "You fellows have no idea of the wealth of the country, but for God's sake take clothes and provisions."

Millionaires Are Thick.

Every man has his money or his letters and receipts to show his wealth and millionaires are thick here, and everyone on board our ship is in a frenzy to get there. Five thousand people started over the summit but only fifteen hundred got through. I met several of the Mounted Police who said Fawcett was in, but had not seen our boys. But they said it was very likely they were in, and that they would rush the first thing for the big claims.

Two Tons of Gold.

"There is a not a man on board these boats with less than \$8,000 or \$10,000, and the purser on the Alaska Company's



Walter M. Woodburn Drugstore at Grand Forks in 1901 (Yukon Archives Photo)
(teamster bogged in deep mud from flash flood in front of the store)



Walter Woodburn at his gold claim, probably on a Sunday afternoon in 1901

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steamer *Alice* (learn more on next page) showed me over two tons of gold in his cargo. Now this is no lie as I had my hands through it and it would be no object for me to exaggerate the slightest. I met Mr. Lippi, who last year went in almost broke and was going out with some \$40,000 with him and had been offered \$500,000 for his claim, but he refused. However, he left a man to watch it for him until he got back.

"I have no fear that if we are too late for a good claim this year, that we can make good money all winter, and will be out first thing next spring. But I guess Alex. Prudhomme and Stuart will have one or two claims staked by the time I get there.

Boats Overcrowded.

I am awful sorry I came this way. The whole country is around by the N. A. T. & T. Co. and the A. C. C. We have been piled one on top of another, 254 passengers on a boat licensed to carry 52, and now we have laid here waiting for their boat, with no fit water to drink and our captain is in a rebellious mood. Recommend the A. C. Co. is preference to this one to any person, as it cannot be any worse, and may be better. Although our passengers were partially to blame, they offered to submit to anything for a passage. I, together with 40 others, have volunteered to sleep on the deck of the river boat, which leaves to-morrow night, to avoid waiting the steamer Healy, which left before we got there and is not back. You see we were stuck in the ice in Behring Sea [editor's note: today this is spelled "Bering Sea"], and were two days late in starting, and they sent their boats up the river without us. They know that when you are here you are their property.

Can't Get Freight Through.

Mr. Woodburn speaks of his difficulty in getting freight sent up the river. He says: "It was hard work, as there were hundreds waiting. One father paid \$500 for sending two tons of the stuff to his two boys up here, but of course there was bedding and stores and things which were bulky. The rates were freight prepaid, but I managed to get off with paying \$125 down and the balance on delivery, and getting 60 days' notice at the wharf at Dawson to remove it. I had to pay 10 cents a pound on my excess baggage. I had 255 pounds excess at Seattle, and have bought some furs since from the U.S. revenue cutter which had been seized. It was a stroke of good fortune to get you this word back on the same steamer I came up on. With best prospects, I am yours respectfully. W. M. W. Woodburn."



The Alaska Commercial Company added to its fleet with the *Alice* in 1895. In 1897 there were 7 steamers operating in the Yukon, by 1899 there were 30. Many businesses prospered from selling supplies and services to folks seeking to find gold in the Klondike gold fields. Not so much for steamboats and steamship companies, when people and the Captains purchased shares in various boats. The risk of the waterways and storms, would see many of these investments lost. But when the boats were afloat, the companies may out quite well, especially when they failed to abide by safety and passenger regulations to increased their coffers, and to accommodating the demand.

The *Alice* was built in 1885 in Andreafsy. In 1898 the company operated 4 coastal steamers and 12 sternwheelers (of which *Alice* was one). In 1899 this was 3 coastal steamers, a coastal side-wheeler, two tugs, a pilot boat, and 7 river steamers. In 1901, the company on the lower river operated 14 boats (including the *Alice*).

The Alaska Commercial Company's *Alice* and the North American Transportation and Trading Company's *Portus B Weare* were the first two boats to carry weary but joyous miners and their golden cargo from the Klondike to St. Michael in the spring of 1897, where they would catch larger ocean-going steamships back to San Francisco. It was not until this trip, and the start of the Klondike Gold Rush stampede in 1897-1898, that the first large-scale steamer traffic developed on the Yukon River, between Dawson and Bennett, and the mobility provided by the steamboats would begin to alter the landscape.

The Klondike Gold Rush was officially over by the summer of 1899 (production ended in 1907). Gold was then discovered on the beaches in Nome, Alaska and the next rush began.

Shipping company departure records show Walter Woodburn departed from Seattle on June 26, 1908, and passenger's address is listed as 623 Queen Anne Ave., Seattle, Washington.

The Klondike Gold Rush was important because the Purchase of Alaska for \$7.2 million by the United States of America from Russia, was originally viewed as a massive mistake and an economic liability for the nation — this opinion was totally

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Reversed with the discovery of gold by George Carmack — a precious resource. The discovery was made during a depression and immediately made a significant, highly beneficial impact on the economy of the American nation. It was also important because it brought about a rapid advance in the development and infrastructure of the Alaska and Yukon Territory.

The following table shows the gold production in Yukon Territory during the Klondike Gold Rush:

1896 - \$	300,000
1897 - \$	2,500,000
1898 - \$	10,000,000
1899 - \$	16,000,000
1900 - \$	22,275,000
1901 - \$	18,000,000
1902 - \$	14,500,000
1903 - \$	12,250,000
1904 - \$	10,350,000
1905 - \$	7,000,000
1906 - \$	6,000,000
1907 (Estimated) -	\$3,000,000

Making a claim in the Klondike Gold Rush: A prospector would drive stakes into the ground at a measured distance apart to 'stake a claim'. They would then register the claim.

Staking a claim: If the prospector left the claim for more than 3 days without good reason, another prospector could make a claim on the land. A Klondike Gold Rush prospector could only stake one claim along a 500 foot (150 m) long stretch of a creek - which left the region for more miners to stake a claim which explains why a rush or stampede would occur. Claims could also be purchased.

As many as 50,000 prospectors flocked to Alaska during Klondike Gold Rush. The winter Arctic climate caused great hardship and suffering to the prospectors and many of the miners returned to their homes poorer than when they left them. Only a few hundred became wealthy men.

July, 1897: A group of prospectors arrived at Seattle from the Klondike, bringing with them nuggets and dust weighing more than one ton and worth \$1.5 million dollars.

If the \$28,800,000 in gold that was recovered during the heady years of 1897 to 1899 was divided equally among all of those who participated in the gold rush, the amount would fall far short of the total that they had invested, in time and money, to reach the Klondike. The continental economy, however, which had been locked in a depression and plagued by unemployment, benefited from the spending during the gold rush.

The Klondike gold rush brought about a rapid advance in the development of the Yukon Territory, which was officially formed by Parliament on 13 June 1898. The gold rush left an infrastructure of supply, support and governance that led to the continued development of the territory. Had it not been for the discovery of gold, development of this region would have been a slow and gradual process.

The gold rush brought tremendous upheaval and disenfranchisement for the people indigenous to the region. The Han people of the Yukon valley were pushed aside and marginalized. Only a century later, as a result of land claim settlements have the Tr'ondëk Hwech'in found redress and self-governance.

In reviewing 200 years of Gold Prices, consider this: 1792 was \$19.39 per troy ounce; 1892 was \$20.67; Klondike Gold Rush 1897-1899 still \$20.67; 1992 was \$333.00; 2012 blew the walls off at \$1,664.00; and Nov. 10, 2018 (time of writing this article) the price is \$1,210.48.

My Kaska Nation

Gold Coin Design for the 2nd Annual "My Kaska Nation" Contest has a drawing submission deadline is December 20, 2018. Contest Winner Announcement is January 2nd, 2019. Information package and contest rules available from info@yukonmint.com or call Vancouver 604-260-0289. To recognize Kaska art and the Kaska Nation, the Yukon Mint™ Corporation will produce an ongoing series of gold coins with annual contests "My Kaska Nation" where Kaska artists are asked to submit designs. The winning design then gets transformed into a gold coin. The gold coins will be minted in a variety of sizes that could range from ¼ ounce to 10 ounces.

The First Design Contest took place in 2017 and the winner was Miranda Lane with her submission *Truth North Moose*. The Yukon Mint™ Corporation held a ceremony to unveil and celebrate her winning design on May 30, 2018.

Obverse: Ms. Lane's submission to the 2017 'My Kaska Nation' contest was based on her original work, *True North Moose*, and depicts the Moose (Keda) honoured and recognized for all the gifts she provides for her people. The Moose represents

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hunting, food nutrition, community, sharing, kindness and survival and is found in the North of the medicine wheel, with North representing the place of wisdom. The sun, moon and trees represent the reciprocal arrangement we all have with Mother Earth.

Reverse: An iconic image linked to the Yukon that speaks to the history and entrepreneurial spirit of exploration. The Klondike Gold Rush (1897-1899) was an epic journey, to an uncharted land in search of adventure and opportunity in the continent's final frontier. It seared the word "Klondike" into the collective consciousness of a generation. That is the way it was then, and people still seek to follow the steps of the Klondike stampeders to this very day.

Miranda Lane is a self-taught artist and spiritual intuitive. When she was a child, her grandfather (Mother's father) Chief Little Jimmy, shared the importance of animal medicine and the value of our interconnectedness with all beings and Mother Earth – these lessons have greatly influenced and contributed to her artistic endeavors. She describes herself as someone who "paints intuitively from the heart, capturing the gifts of Mother Earth, using Spirit animals to deliver messages to help others on their Earth walk". Miranda is a member of the Wolf clan and a citizen of the Liard First Nation and currently lives in Alberta with her husband Doug, of 28 years, and her mother. She is the mother of two grown sons, Joshua and Jeremiah, and has a degree in Psychology and Social Welfare. When she isn't painting, drawing, or creating art out of her home studio she provides Spiritual Intuitive Counselling from home.



Local Clubs & Numismatic Associations Upcoming Shows & Conventions

*For other shows (out-of-province, out-of-country, dealers, auction houses),
go to Canadian Coin News Events Page, <http://canadiancoinnews.com/events/>*

2018-Dec 2: Rotary Club of Brampton Coin and Trading Card Show at Century Gardens Recreation Centre, 340 Vodden Rd. E., Brampton, ON L6V 1N4. Hours 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$3 (under 14 free). Free parking. Funds raised for children's charities. Sponsor / Affiliate: B&W Coins & Tokens and the Rotary Club of Brampton. Contact **Willard Burton**, phone 905-450-2870, email willardb@bwcoins.com.

2019-Jan 26-27: Annual Canadian Association of Numismatic Dealers (CAND) Convention & Coin Show at Sheraton Hamilton Hotel, 116 King St. W., Hamilton, ON, L8P 4V3. Saturday 10-4 and Sunday 10-3. Admission Saturday \$4 adults, \$2 seniors, under age 12 free, and Sunday admission is free for all. Contact **Tom Kennedy** phone 519-271-8825, email cand@cogeco.ca, website <http://www.cand.org>. **Jeffrey Hoare Auctions** will host its Numismatic and Military Sale No. 128 in conjunction with the show.

2019-Feb 3: Paris Coin & Collectibles Show at Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St., Paris, ON, N3L 1V4. Hours 9-4, \$4 admission includes draw ticket for a gold coin. Hot and cold food and drinks available at the show. Contact **Jared Stapleton** phone 647-403-7334, email pariscoinshow@gmail.com, website <http://www.pariscoinshow.com>. **Geoffrey Bell Auctions** holding auction Friday, February 2nd at Grand Ballroom, Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton, 20 Fen Ridge Ct., Brantford, ON, N3V 1G2 5:00 EST (viewing 10-4), lot pick-up available at the Paris Coin & Collectibles Show.

2019-Feb 10: 10th Classic Coins & Paper Money Show at the Best Western Plus, 930 Burnham St., Cobourg, ON, K9A 2X9, hours 9:30-4:30, free admission and parking. Contact Paul Harding phone 905-375-5712, email coinmanph@yahoo.com, website <http://classiccoinsandbanknotes.com>.

History of Casino Tokens



Casinos have been around since the famed “Ridotto” opened in Venice in the 17th century as the world’s first state-sanctioned gambling venue. However, games of chance were played exclusively with cash for nearly 200 years until the card game known as “poker” became a fixture of mining camps, gambling halls and saloons in the “Gold Rush” days of the American West. That’s when prospectors began wagering with jagged pieces of gold and silver, ore in the form of nuggets or pellets, and small bags of gold dust as well as metal tokens and “chips” made of ivory, bone or wood to represent the value of precious metals deposited with the game’s organizer or “bank.” In the 1880s, manufacturers began producing uniformly designed, circular “poker chips” composed of clay combined and compressed with sand, chalk or shellac. Over the next 50 years, colorful red, white and blue clay chips would gradually become the common medium of exchange at poker tables, replacing the confusing hodge-podge of precious metals, coins, tokens and paper promissory notes. Their usage would also spread to other games, from faro to blackjack, craps and roulette, setting the stage for gaming hall-branded chips when casino gambling was legalized in Nevada in the 1930s. The ancestors of the modern casino token were the counters used to keep score in the card games Ombre and Quadrille. In 1752, French Quadrille sets contained a number of different counters, known as *jetons*, *fiches* and *mils*. Unlike modern poker chips, they were colored differently only to determine player ownership for purposes of settling payments at the end of the game, with different denominations differentiated by different shapes that each counter type had. In the early history of Poker during the 19th century, players seemed to use any small valuable object imaginable. Early poker players sometimes used jagged gold pieces, gold nuggets, gold dust, or coins as well as “chips” primarily made of ivory, bone, wood, paper, and a composition made from clay and shellac. Several companies between the 1880s and the late 1930s made clay composition poker chips. There were over 1000 designs from which to choose. Most chips were white, red, blue, and yellow, but they could be made in almost any color desired.

Casino tokens (also known as casino or gaming chips, checks, or cheques) are small discs used in lieu of currency in casinos. Colored metal, injection-molded plastic or compression molded clay tokens of various denominations are used primarily in table games, as opposed to metal token coins, used primarily in slot machines. Casino tokens are also widely used as play money in casual or tournament games. Some casinos also use rectangular **gaming plaques** for high-stakes table games (\$25,000 and above). Plaques differ from chips in that they are larger, usually rectangular in shape and contain serial numbers. Money is exchanged for tokens in a casino at the casino cage, at the gaming tables, or at a cashier station. The tokens are interchangeable with money at the casino. They generally have no value outside of the casino, but certain businesses (such as taxis or waiters—especially for tips) in gambling towns may honor them informally.

Tokens are employed for several reasons. Because of the uniform size, shape, and patterns of stacks of chips, they are easier to tally compared to currency. This attribute also enables the pit boss or security to quickly verify the amount being paid, reducing the chance that a dealer might incorrectly pay a customer. The uniform weight of the casino's official tokens allows them to weigh great stacks or heaps of chips rather than tally them (though aids such as chip trays are far more common.) Furthermore, it is observed that consumers gamble more freely with replacement currencies than with cash. A more pragmatic reason for casinos using chips in place of cash at table games is to discourage players from grabbing back their bet and attempting to flee should their bet not win, because chips, unlike cash, must be redeemed at the casino cashier and have no value outside the casino in question. Lastly, the chips are considered to be an integral part of the casino environment, and replacing them with some alternate currency would be unpopular. Many casinos have eliminated the use of metal tokens (and coins) in their slot machines, in favor of paper receipts or pre-paid cards, which, while requiring heavy infrastructure costs to install, eliminate the coin handling expenses, jamming problems encountered in machines which took coins or tokens and can allow more game-specific technology in the space of a machine which would usually be dedicated to coin mechanisms. While some casinos (such as the Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas) which installed the receipt system had kept the \$1 tokens around for use as \$1 chips, most other casinos using the receipts had simply scrapped the tokens entirely. Most casinos using receipts have automated machines at which customers may redeem receipts, eliminating the need for coin counting windows and decreasing labor costs.

Casino chip collecting is a part of numismatics, more specifically as specialized **exonumia** collecting. This hobby has become increasingly popular with the **Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club** formed in 1988. Some collectors may value certain casino tokens up to \$100,000, which are typically traded on online auction websites like eBay. Several casinos sell custom-made sets of chips and one or two decks of cards stamped with the name of the casino on them. Each set is contained in a small briefcase or box.

GUELPH SPRING COIN SHOW

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH, 2019

OPEN 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

Hosted by the South Wellington Coin Society

★ ***\$2 Admission to SWCS Show includes a** ★
Coupon valid for the 2019 Toronto Coin Expo *

★ **Lunch Counter** ★
OVER 35 Dealer Tables !

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EVALUATIONS ★

LOCATION:

Colonel John McCrae Memorial Royal Canadian Legion—Branch 234

57 Watson Parkway South, GUELPH, ON N1L 1E3

Contact:

Mike Hollingshead

E-mail:

cholling@uoguelph.ca

Phone: (519) 823-2646

Host Website:

www.southwellingtoncoinsociety.ca

FUTURE Coin Shows (new dates):

In GUELPH same location

⇒ **Sat. Sept. 28, 2019**

⇒ **Sat. Apr. 25, 2020**

⇒ **Sat. Sept. 26, 2020**

⇒ **Sat. Apr. 24, 2021**

⇒ **Sat. Sept. 25, 2021**



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SWCS AUCTION LIST FOR DECEMBER 5TH, 2018

LOT	DESCRIPTION	EST. VALUE	RESERVE	YOUR BID
1	Canada 1987 proof silver dollar North West Passage	\$13.00	\$8.00	
2	Harry Potter coin collection	\$17.95	\$10.00	
3	1939 King George 6 th visit to Can. Medallion & chain		\$1.25	
4	Card holder case plated or silver ?		\$5.00	
5	Rolled penny bracelet & chain with hanger		\$5.00	
6	Canada 1959 half dollar		\$5.00	
7	Upper Canada 1832 half penny token VF	\$125.00	\$50.00	
8	Canada 2006 2 dollar roll purple wrapper Anniversary	\$99.00	\$60.00	
9	Canada 2003 proof like set	\$35.00	\$18.00	
10	Canada 1985 double \$ set National Parks Anniversary	\$25.00	\$15.00	
11	Canada 2004 First Day Strike Lucky Loony	\$9.95	\$4.00	
12	R.C.M. 2006 roll of quarters Logo Bravery	\$19.00	\$13.00	
13	R.C.M. 2005P roll of quarters Logo Veteran	\$19.00	\$13.50	
14	R.C.M. 2004P roll of quarters Coloured Poppy blackwrap	\$25.00	\$18.00	
15	R.C.M. 2012 roll of quarters Brock some are coloured	\$19.00	\$15.00	
16	R.C.M. 2005P 4 rolls of nickels V E Day	\$32.00	\$20.00	
17	Great Britain 1834 three half pence holed	?	\$7.50	
18	Vanuatu 1981 50 vatu silver coin red case	\$54.00	\$20.00	
19	Canada 1975 Calgary Centennial Specimen silver dollar	\$13.00	\$8.00	
20	Canada 1973 R.C.M.P. Specimen silver dollar	\$15.00	\$9.00	
21	Canada 1987 proof loon dollar in blue case	\$10.00	\$5.00	
22	Canada 1981 Trans Canada Railway proof silver dollar	\$13.00	\$9.00	
23	Canada 1987 North West Passage Expedition silver \$	\$13.00	\$9.00	
24	Canada 1991 Frontenac proof silver dollar	\$18.00	\$10.00	
25	Franklin Mint membership coin sterling silver	\$25.00	\$10.00	
26	Great Britain 1745 "Lima" shilling silver .925	\$159.00	\$80.00	
27	R.C.M. 1971 Specimen double dollar set	\$15.00	\$10.00	
28	R.C.M. 1987 Davis N West Passage Proof set	\$20.00	\$12.00	
29	R.C.M. 1988 St. Maurice Iron Works Proof set	\$20.00	\$12.00	
30	R.C.M. 1997 Roll of 50 cents plastic wrap 25 pieces	\$23.75	\$20.00	

Coins for auction call Lowell Wierstra @ 519-824-6534